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WW DEPARTMENT !

July 25, 1985

Messrs. Arnold Henson
Alexander Holtzman
Josiah S. Murray III
Ernest Pepples
Arthur J. Stevens
S. B. Witt III

Gentlemen:

The enclosed research proposal from Dr. William Gutstein of New York Medical College requests support in the amount of \$319,535.00 for two years. We recommend that the proposal be approved and funded as a CTR Special Project.

Dr. Gutstein is a Professor of Pathology and Psychiatry at New York Medical College in Valhalla, New York, who first received a CTR Special Project grant in 1983. This two-year project has focused on brain stimulation and its relationship to coronary spasm and ultimately to atherogenesis in larger coronary vessels. Dr. Gutstein believes that the research produced useful data that lead to a better understanding of how psychosocial stimuli (i.e., stress) may be involved in the causation of heart disease. Dr. Gutstein hypothesizes that responses to emotionally-charged psychosocial stimuli can in time lead to certain forms of coronary heart disease in humans. The current research proposal will further address the possible mechanism by which this disease process may develop. In particular, the proposed research will focus on the myocardial effects resulting from coronary spasm of small vessels in the coronary circulation and their possible significance in the production of atherogenesis.

Dr. Gutstein and his colleague, Dr. Piero Anversa, have been quite productive during their two-year grant period and have published approximately seven articles noting support from

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CTR. Copies of some of these articles are attached for your information. It is our view that Dr. Gutstein and his colleagues have developed interesting theories regarding heart disease causation and myocardial damage and the enclosed proposal represents a further attempt to examine the theories.

Dr. Sommers has reviewed the proposal and believes it is worthy of further support. We also recommend that Dr. Gutstein's proposal be approved for two years as a CTR Special Project.

If possible, I would like to have your response by August 23, 1985.

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cc & enc: Ms. Janet C. Brown
Mr. Francis K. Decker, Jr.

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